

## United States Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO.   | FILING DATE    | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.     | CONFIRMATION NO. |  |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--|
| 09/313,436        | 05/17/1999     | DAVID S. SPRINGER    | SPRINGER M-7260US       |                  |  |
| 75                | 590 10/19/2006 | EXAMINER             |                         |                  |  |
| DAVID L MO        | CCOMBS         | LE, KHANH H          |                         |                  |  |
| HAYNES & BO       | OONE LLP       |                      |                         |                  |  |
| 901 MAIN STR      | REET           | ART UNIT             | PAPER NUMBER            |                  |  |
| <b>SUITE 3100</b> |                | 3622                 |                         |                  |  |
| DALLAS, TX        | 75202-3789     |                      | DATE MAILED: 10/19/2006 |                  |  |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Advisory Action After the Filing of an Appeal Brief

The reply filed 9/13/2006 is acknowledged.

| Application No. | Applicant(s)    |  |  |  |
|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| 09/313,436      | SPRINGER ET AL. |  |  |  |
| Examiner        | Art Unit        |  |  |  |
| Khanh H. Le     | 3622            |  |  |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

|      | <b>-</b>       |                |                   | _             |                 |                 |                |                          |          |
|------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------|
| 1. L | The reply file | ed on or after | the date of filin | g of an appea | al brief, but p | prior to a fina | al decision by | <sup>,</sup> the Board o | f Patent |

- Appeals and Interferences, will <u>not</u> be entered because:
  - a. The amendment is not limited to canceling claims (where the cancellation does not affect the scope of any other pending claims) or rewriting dependent claims into independent form (no limitation of a dependent claim can be excluded in rewriting that claim). See 37 CFR 41.33(b) and (c).
  - b. The affidavit or other evidence is not timely filed before the filing of an appeal brief. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(2).
- 2. The reply is not entered because it was not filed within the two month time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.39(b), 41.50(a)(2), or 41.50(b) (whichever is appropriate). Extensions of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) are not available.

Note: This paragraph is for a reply filed in response to one of the following: (a) an examiner's answer that includes a new ground of rejection (37 CFR 41.39(a)(2)); (b) a supplemental examiner's answer written in response to a remand by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for further consideration of rejection (37 CFR 41.50(a)(2)); or (c) a Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences decision that includes a new ground of rejection (37 CFR 41.50(b)).

- 3. The reply is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.
- 4. Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

PRIMARY EXAMINER